

# DEI Departure

Juanita Simmons leaves University, cites family considerations

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Northwest Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Juanita Simmons departed the University Feb. 4.

University President John Jasinski announced Simmons' departure in the Feb. 1 edition of "All that Jazz." Simmons arrived at Northwest in August 2016 and was the University's first vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion. She is departing due to family considerations.

"We thank Dr. Simmons for her work since beginning with the University in August 2016," Jasinski said in the email. "As a valuable team member, she has worked tirelessly to support our University's mission as well as our DEI efforts."

University Police Chief Clarence Green will serve as the interim vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion on a project-based manner until June 30.

"I've known Dr. Simmons a long time, we've always talked on and off," Green said. "I can't say it was unexpected - it's a little bit of both. I did not know this would be the time-frame nor did I know I would be the person put into this position."

Green has been charged with the tasks of continuing to strengthen the culture of diversity, equity and inclusion at Northwest. He will also analyze the structure of the Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, recommending potential changes.

"It is something I am very grateful for, I'm honored to do, it's something I am very passionate about," Green said. "I think I can assist in the short time frame that this has been assigned to me."

The Northwest Board of Regents voted to create the position alongside the coordinator of diversity and inclusion role in April 2016 as an effort to improve the University in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion.

SEE **SIMMONS | A5**



Juanita Simmons was hired as the Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in August 2016. Her time at Northwest came to an end Feb. 4 due to family considerations, according to "All That Jazz," President John Jasinski's semi-weekly newsletter.

FILE | NW MISSOURIAN

## NEWS BRIEF

# University raises minimum wage

### Palms suspect faces upcoming court trial

The Maryville man who allegedly wrecked into The Palms, killing Northwest sophomore Morgan McCoy, will stand before a jury Feb. 11.

Alex Catterson, 22, has a five-day jury trial Feb. 11-15 beginning at 9 a.m. each day at the Nodaway County Courthouse. Catterson is being charged with a DWI - Death of another not a passenger.

The accident occurred Jan. 7, 2018, when McCoy was walking out of the Palms with her friends.

McCoy was severely injured and transported to St. Francis Hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Over 50 subpoenas were issued to witnesses and law enforcement that were at the scene. Medical personnel is also included among the list.

Circuit Court Judge Roger M. Prokes will serve as the judge over this case. Catterson is being represented by defense attorney Samuel Scroggie. The prosecuting attorney is Robert Rice.

### SAMANTHA COLLISON

Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

The Office of Human Resources announced Jan. 24 that Northwest student employees' wages increased to align with the new Missouri minimum wage.

The statewide minimum wage increase for all private, non-exempt businesses took effect Jan. 1, which did not require public universities to make the change, but the Northwest leadership team decided to increase all student employee wages.

All wages increased by the 75 cents that the Missouri minimum wage increased by across all four pay levels.

Senior Human Resources Generalist Paula McClain said the biggest factor in the decision was the value of student employees on campus.

"We wanted to make sure our students know we value and appreciate what it is that they're doing for the University," McClain said. "We know that we can't survive without them. There are 950 students that work on this campus, and they make up for about 230 full-time employees we would have to go out and hire if we didn't have them."

McClain said student employees are not only a necessity, but

they're also uniquely valuable in a number of areas.

"They play a key role in our research, education and operational excellence here at Northwest," McClain said.

Freshman Ashleigh Erickson said she is in favor of the increase because wages should keep up with the cost of living.

"Other states are raising minimum wage, and their economies are just fine," Erickson said. "Missouri's minimum wage increase is not the end of the world. We're not all going to be suddenly paying \$15 for a \$1 gallon of milk."

Although the increase is small, Erickson said she appreciates the small amount of extra income.

"My second job on campus as a studio tech is a minimum wage job, but I'm now working at the wage rate I was working at when I was 16 working at Worlds of Fun for the summer," Erickson said. "All in all, I'm making more money at each job now than I was last semester. It'll be nice to see bigger paychecks once I get paid."

Vice President of Finance Nola Bond said another factor in deciding to increase wages was staying competitive with other local employers.

Since Northwest works with

students' schedules on work hours, it offers flexibility in addition to affordability.

Bond said Northwest student employees also have higher retention and graduation rates, so it's important to the leadership team that students can keep these benefits without sacrificing affordability.

"Because we know that it's important to our students, we want to make sure we're competitive in the Maryville area," Bond said. "So we made the decision to have the first round of increases go into effect this year, and then talk with Student Senate about how to handle increases over time."

In order to pay for the wage increase for this year, McClain said hours are being reduced for some positions.

Freshman Maddy Benda is a student ambassador and said students are no longer paid for hours when they are not giving tours.

"We just have to leave when there are no tours or nothing that needs to be done, which can be frustrating when I need the money," Benda said. "We typically work five hours a week, which isn't a lot, but when it gets cut down

to even less than that, it's hard considering most of us have other bills to pay."

Bond said one of the sources that pay student employees is student fees, and looking forward, decisions made on how to afford wage increases for all student employees as the minimum wage continues to rise will be made in conjunction with Student Senate.

The leadership team will have its first meeting with Student Senate this month.



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# Winter wreaks havoc on roads, causes potholes

KATIE STEVENSON

Community News editor | @KatieSStevenson

Maryville's roads have seen significant damage due to the constant freezing and thawing of pavement.

This winter has been particularly harsh, causing Maryville's worst pothole season in nearly a decade. Public Works Director C.E. Goodall said he and his crews are aware of the growing issue but are hindered by the weather.

"Actually, it is one of our priorities, when we're not pushing snow, in the winters is the freezing and thawing because it just tears them (the roads) to pieces," Goodall said. "With the worse temperatures this year we've run into more of that, especially in a location on Main Street around Pagliai's and up around that corner there."

City Manager Greg McDanel said this weather has caused issues for cities across Missouri.

"Potholes form when moisture from weather or melting snow gets into roadway cracks and freezes," McDanel said. "With the weather pattern this year, there is a constant cycle of thawing and refreezing making it one of the worst winters yet for roadways across the state, not just Maryville."

McDanel said Maryville is working to fill the potholes but the city cannot fully repair the roads until the temperatures rise in early spring.

"Crews are patching potholes as we can in between snow removal efforts with 'cold-mix,'" McDanel said. "'Cold-mix' is a temporary solution that has a short duration hold. A better repair is called 'hot-mix' asphalt which holds much longer and seals the pothole, however, this can only be applied in warmer temperatures."

The weather has not only affected the roads but also the city's budget as McDanel said snow removal efforts in January have cost

Maryville \$57,000.

Goodall echoed McDanel saying they may use most or all of their 2019 road repair budget.

"We've budgeted about \$50,000 for road repairs and we will definitely be hitting it pretty hard this year," Goodall said. "I know on snow removal we are already past our budgeted amount on salt and BIOMELT. So, we've definitely seen our budget take a bigger hit than normal."

Goodall said he encourages anyone to report pothole issues to his department so they can make repairs as soon as possible.

"Anytime they can call into Public Works office at (660)-562-8012 that'll get them to Stacy (public works administrative assistant) and she'll take down the address or location," Goodall said. "We then usually call the street department immediately and let them know. If it is after hours they can call Public Safety and let them know and they'll pass it along to us."

Goodall said it is a good idea to report potholes because while they have workers patrolling the streets they may still miss some major ones.

"We have guys go out and drive the streets every day and try to make sure we find them, especially on the main thoroughfare," Goodall said. "But you get some of them on streets that don't get driven very often we may not get on that street so if they want to let us know we'd be more than happy to respond."

McDanel said he wants people to be aware that not all road issues are actually up to the city to repair but may actually belong to a private business or the University.

"It may be a misconception to students that the city maintains private business parking lots, such as Taco Bell, or 'business roads' such as on campus," McDanel said. "These are mostly maintained by the private entity."



Sophomores Alex Westhoff and Rhianna Grisdale study while using some of the new furniture available on the second floor of the library.

MADI GLASS| NW MISSOURIAN

## University participates in AASCU project

RACHEL ADAMSON

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Northwest was selected by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities to participate in its Center for Success program.

The AASCU is a higher learning national organization comprised of over 400 universities for the purpose of collaborating to share and understand ways of advancement for public higher education.

Northwest is one of six universities selected across the nation that were selected to participate in the 15 month Center for Student Success project. The project kicked off Jan. 18 and is expected to be completed by March 2020.

Project lead and Director of Academic Success Allison Hoffmann said the University does things well in terms of student success but is always looking for ways to move forward in positive direction.

"I think we do a wonderful job at what our mission says, which is

that we focus on student success every student, every day," Hoffmann said. "I think we don't want to just be OK with where we're at, we do want to kind of push ourselves to do a little better."

The other institutions participating in this project are Austin Peay State University, Bowie State University, California State University, CUNY Lehman College and Henderson State University.

"The institutions are very different from one another," Hoffmann said. "Our similarities from the outside may not look like there's many but who knows maybe when we get into the project, we both have a similar type of student success initiatives that have been successful or we really need to work on something in another area."

Northwest will be working with these institutions throughout the Center for Student Success project to learn collaboratively as well as have access to tools and strategies through AASCU, which

is funded through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

"What I think is really neat about is we aren't going to be asked to do the same thing or try to implement something on our campus that another campus did," Hoffmann said. "It's customizable and we get to look specifically at what we do really well at Northwest and what maybe we can improve at Northwest and use that."

The initial campus team is made up of President John Jasinski, Provost Jamie Hooyman, Undergraduate Dean Michael Steiner, professor Matt Symonds, Director of Institutional Research Egon Heidendaal, Academic Advisor Julie Johnson, Assistant Director of Academic Success and Retention Leslie Abarr-Cuenca and Hoffmann.

"We do expect there to be some fluidity in the team so people will be brought in," Hoffmann said. "It's definitely not set in stone, it's just the first working team. We'll have a lot of subgroups and subcommittees that will get together whenever we are working on a specific thing."

Representatives from the AASCU will be visiting campus in April or March. Up to 100 University leaders and key stakeholders will be asked to take a survey regarding their thoughts about the University.

"What the students should know or I hope that they would be excited about is that we're continuing to look at the student experience and how we can help and ensure that the students are successful at Northwest," Hoffmann said.



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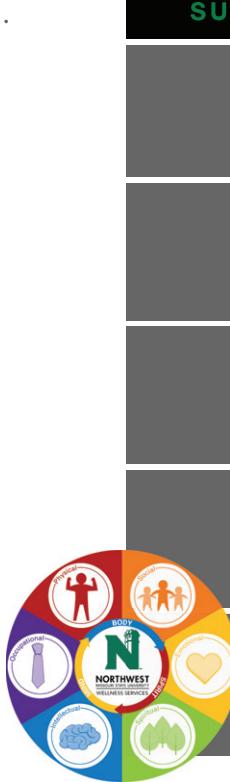
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						1
3	4	Meditation 12pm Alumni Dining Room #Relationships 2pm The Station	5	Wellness Wednesday 11am Union Meeting Room C	6	Dare to Self-Care 11am Alumni Dining Room everyBODY 3:30pm The Station
10	11	Meditation 12pm Alumni Dining Room #Relationships 2pm The Station Flourishing 7pm Station Center Room	12	International Coffee Hour 2:30pm B.D. Owens Library Pop-Up Women's Center 4pm Student Engagement Center	13	everyBODY 3:30pm The Station
17	18	Meditation 12pm Alumni Dining Room #Relationships 2pm The Station	19	Wellness Wednesday 11:00am Union Meeting Room C Speed Networking 2pm and 4pm Ballroom	20	Dare to Self-Care 11am Alumni Dining Room Open Mic Night 7pm Union Living Room
24	25	Meditation 12pm Alumni Dining Room #Relationships 2pm The Station	26	International Coffee Hour 2:30pm B.D. Owens Library Pop-Up Women's Center 4pm Student Engagement Center	27	Dare to Self-Care 11am Alumni Dining Room everyBODY 3:30pm The Station
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22	23					
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Feb. 7, 2019

# Students receive over \$18 million in scholarships, grants annually

**MASON BIGLER**  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Many students struggle to pay for college, Northwest, however, tries to help by offering over 400 scholarships.

From Sept. 1 to Feb. 1, Northwest's Standard Scholarship Application is open to students. The application is for major-specific scholarships, and not for admission-based scholarships. Students receive over \$18 million in scholarships and grants annually according to the Northwest website.

Northwest also offers in-state tuition for out-of-state freshman and transfer students through the Bearcat Advantage and Green and White Advantage scholarships. These scholarships are offered to out-of-state students based on current GPA and ACT scores. The Bearcat Advantage awards \$6,000 and the Green and White Advantage offers \$3,326.

Fifty Northwest students were surveyed at random about the Standard Scholarship Application. Out of the 50 students, 32 of them said they fill out the Standard Scholarship Application every year. Eighteen students said they did not complete the Standard Scholarship Application.

Junior Stephanie Andrews received the Bearcat Advantage and Adopt-a-Bearcat scholarships.

"I would not be able to afford to go here if it was not for them," Andrews said. "I am an out-of-state student, so going here to Northwest would be much more expensive than going back home."

Andrews said the scholarships assisted in her personal situation at home.

"I have two siblings who are in college," Andrews said. "So paying for three college kids is really hard on my family. It is good for students who do not fall into gifted or high needs."

Andrews said the process for

filling out the general scholarship application was fairly easy.

"Most of it was just kind of click through and fill it out to the best of your ability," Andrews said. "Then they gave you a list of all the scholarships that were available at that time, and you clicked on the ones that you felt applied to you most."

One scholarship the University offers is the Family of the Year Award. The Family of the Year Award is given to one student every year. This student is supposed to be the best representation of the 'Bearcat family' and involvement with the school. The recipient of the scholarship is announced during the Family Weekend football game every year.

Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Gifts Bob Machovsky said the scholarship is important to Northwest.

"We always say the 'Bearcat family,' but there is actually a lot of truth to that," Machovsky said. "(Many) students who go here have family members that have gone before them; that's something that makes Northwest very special."

Machovsky also said the purpose of the Family of the Year scholarship was to show dedication to Northwest.

"This award has been going on for years now," Machovsky said. "This award allows for us to highlight a family who has a family lineage that has gone here for a while or doing great things for Northwest."

On the topic of families, Machovsky said the scholarship is announced during the Family Weekend football game for specific reasons.

"The theme of the week is all about family," Machovsky said. "We want other families, we want our alumni, we want the University and community as a whole to see the types of people who really love this place and what they look like."

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AP PHOTO | J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE  
Members of Congress cheer after President Donald Trump acknowledges more women in Congress during his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

## Women make history in 2019 U.S. elections

**HALLE CORNELIUS**  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

The United States' 119th Congress brings a new wave of women and cultures to the government, leading to a shift in demographics.

According to the National Conference of State Legislators, 25.4 percent of legislators in Missouri are female, which is close to the national average for female legislators. Five women were sworn into office, making a total of 50 in the Missouri General Assembly.

The same trend follows Missouri's representatives in Congress, with only two of the eight made up by women. Former Sen. Claire McCaskill held the most powerful position of a woman in Missouri but was outvoted by Sen. Josh Hawley in the election for 2019.

In 2019, the U.S. has seen the largest number in the history of female candidates running for office. This has led to the largest amount of women in Congress, both at the national and state levels.

According to the Pew Research Center, Congress will have a total of 131 women serving in the new year, many with backgrounds from other cultures. Despite women making nationally recognized

gains in representation, they make up 28.6 percent, meaning less than one-third.

While women did set a record in the election, they are still far from having the same amount of representation in various lawmaker roles.

Political science major James McQuerry feels like women have come far given the 19th Amendment passed almost 100 years ago.

"I think the U.S. is making strides, but sadly, for just under two-thirds of this country's history, women didn't even have the constitutional right to vote," McQuerry said. "It takes time to undo that kind of history."

Even though women gained the right to vote in 1920, Jeannette Rankin made her way into the Congress two years before that, being the first woman elected to the House of Representatives.

According to the Office of Historians and Office of Art and Archives, Rankin worked toward the women's suffrage amendment and was the only one to vote against joining both World War I and World War II.

"I may be the first woman member of Congress, but I won't be the last," Rankin said in an article from the Historian, Art and Archive offices.

According to the Center for American Women and Politics, a total of 358 women have served in Congress, with the current Congress hosting the largest number to date.

According to The New York Times, the 116th Congress is the most diverse it has ever been. This ranges from the first Muslim-American woman to the first two Native American congresswomen and some who are openly LGBTQ. The demographics of people are very different from the first Congress, which was made up of all-white male representatives.

General Assembly Rep. Dan Hegeman (R-Mo.) said that he believes more diversity is beneficial to the government.

"I think it is important to have more women and people of different experiences and background involved in the process," Hegeman said.

Elected representatives are the voices of the people, so having more diversity means they can represent a larger number of people, who may have not had a voice before.

"If a voice for all the people isn't somewhere in the system, then the system has a while to go before it can be considered a democracy that will last," McQuerry said.

# Serial killers are not romantic



CORIE HERTZOG  
Opinion Editor  
@CoffeeGilmore97

I grew up watching crime shows like "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit," "Bones" and "Criminal Minds." These shows helped shape my personality. It gave me a passion for history, forensic science and psychology.

I thought I was alone in feverishly googling H.H. Holmes and the Son of Sam, but I now see America has an obsession with killers.

It's alarming.

First, we often miscast who is a serial killer and who is a mass murderer. The two are vastly different.

Mass murderers typically know their victims and have almost no "cooling off period," as criminologists describe it. Serial killers often don't know their victims and take time to calm down between each kill.

I understand the public allure of serial killers. Many of them have charming personalities like Ted Bundy, and give a glimpse into the more twisted perversions of the human mind like Richard Ramirez.

They haunt the very nature of horror stories, as infamous killers like Jack the Ripper, Jeffrey Dahmer and Holmes influence our cheap thrills through recounting of their gory crimes, both in fiction and nonfiction.

Scott Bonn, a professor of criminology, is an expert on criminal behavior and criminal motivation.

"Real-life serial killers are transformed into larger-than-life celebrity monsters through the combined efforts of law enforcement authorities, and the news and entertainment media, that feed the public's appetite for the macabre," Bonn said in his recurring series about serial killers on psychologytoday.com.

The problem lies in the romanticization of the qualities which make killers so dangerous.

As Zac Efron prepares for the debut of his Ted Bundy movie and Penn Badgley basks in the success of the Netflix hit "You," the internet is abuzz with desires of finding partners with the same disturbing qualities.

"@PennBadgley kidnap me pls," Twitter user @MalikaPlays tweeted the star who was quick to respond with a no.

This is not the only tweet where Badgley had to remind his fans that his character, Joe Goldberg, is not someone to idolize or hope to be with.

"In many ways, serial killers are for adults what monster movies are for children, that is, scary fun," Bonn said. "However, the pleasure an adult receives from watching serial killers can be difficult to admit, and may even trigger feelings of guilt. In fact, my research has revealed that many people refer to their fascination with serial killers as a guilty pleasure."

We need to understand serial killers are not just scary stories to tell as we stay locked away in the coziness of our blankets and stuffed animals. They are dangerous, and we give them infamy as we incorporate their crimes into popular fiction like "American Horror Story" and crime shows.

Serial killers may bring out our strange desire for gore, but our fascination brings out the worst in them.

## OUR VIEW:

# Minimum wage increase

## University's wage jump gives maximum impact

The new minimum wage change increases the Missouri minimum wage from \$7.85 to \$8.60. This change, however, is not mandated for public universities.

Despite this, Northwest stated it would implement this policy for student employees.

This change is both admirable and critical to ensuring student jobs are competitive in the workforce, notably for both international students who are restricted to on-campus positions and national students who can benefit from work-study. However, it raises questions around whether the University should promise this when Student Senate is key to the change.

Student Senate is key since they regulate student fees. This means an increase in minimum wage would likely require an increase in student fees, alongside the approval of Student Senate.

While student jobs are critical for the University, providing a cheaper alternative to full-time employees, the University making this change is appreciated, even if logically it wasn't optional. This is due to student employees effectively being split into two categories: international students and national students. While national students can leave University jobs for more competitive jobs around Maryville, it's not quite as easy for international students.

According to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, international students with a standard F-1 Student Visa can only work off-campus if certain conditions are met.

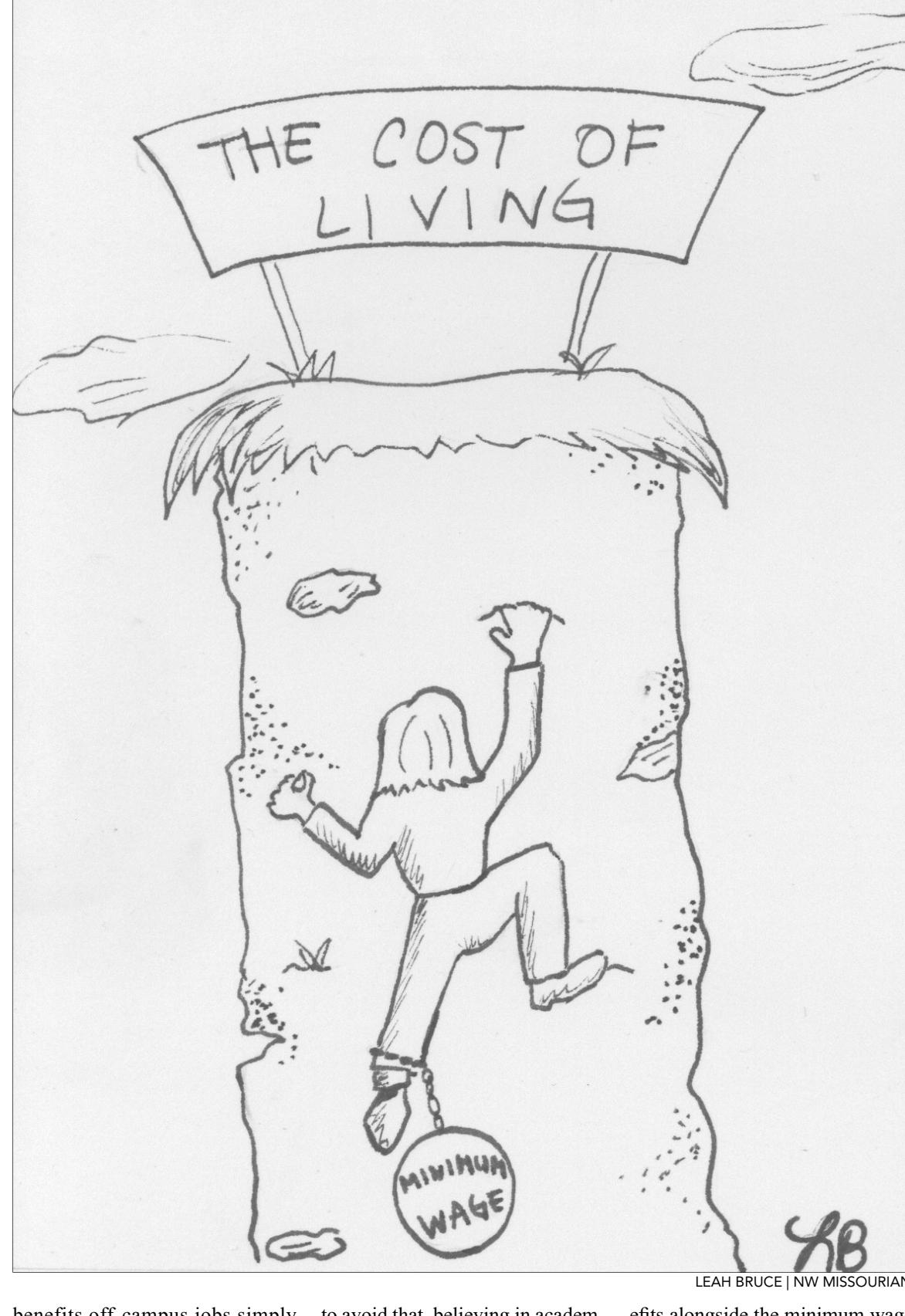
They can't work off-campus their first academic year, and after their first academic year, they can only work off-campus if the job falls under one of three categories outlined by the USCIS.

All three of these categories require an international student's off-campus job to be in their area of study. The other option is working on-campus, which is allowed for international students during any of their academic years.

Maryville is small, so it's not easy to find a job related to a student's area of study, especially with a niche field of study. This results in on-campus jobs being the most viable option for international students, guaranteeing the University employee opportunities.

Despite this, the University is attempting this change, enabling international students to stay competitive with national students able to find jobs off-campus. The change keeps students able to go off-campus and on-campus.

Student employment includes



benefits off-campus jobs simply can't provide: flexibility and federal work-study.

The difficulty of a job in college is balancing it with class. For many students, a consistent income is necessary to survive each semester, so scheduling accommodations are luxurious. On-campus positions provide exactly that.

While off-campus jobs have no obligation to worry about a student's class schedule, on-campus jobs try

to avoid that, believing in academics first and work second.

Federal work-study further sways students.

Students qualified for federal work-study are exempt from reporting their on-campus job income on their FAFSA. If a student qualifies for federal work-study financial aid, they simply need to accept it in CatPaws. They then will be able to benefit from their work-study.

Combining both of these ben-

efits alongside the minimum wage change provides a competitive edge for critical student job positions. However, we believe there's a slight problem with the University promising this change.

The University shouldn't promise a change they can't ensure will happen. Until Student Senate agrees to this change, the University should hold off.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:**  
**NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

# Dress for success actually works



ANGEL TRINH  
Opinion Columnist  
@acuteanglewrite

While most people dress more casually on Fridays, I like to pick a more formal outfit because I enjoy calling it "Fancy Friday."

With frigid temperatures and constant wind, it's easy to spend every day in sweatpants and T-shirts with the same hoodie thrown on top.

Choosing a business casual or professional outfit may seem like a hassle before 8 a.m. most days, but the benefits of dressing up once a week outweigh the minimal cost of putting extra effort into selecting a nicer outfit.

A person in professional cloth-

ing is often seen as more intelligent and credible than someone who is casually dressed.

According to a paper published in "Social Psychological and Personality Science," undergraduate students who wore formal attire thought more abstractly than the students who wore casual clothing. The study results show the students felt more powerful when dressing professionally.

Similarly, an article on the American Psychological Association's Psych Learning Curve by Chloe Levin shared an experiment which showed students who dressed professionally had higher self-esteem and more confidence. Both play key roles when a student judges their self-worth.

"Simply changing the way you dress can have a drastic impact on

how you think about yourself," Levin said.

Dressing up also improves focus and attention.

In a study published in the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Hajo Adam and Adam D. Galinsky tested the effects of professional clothing by using lab coats, a piece of clothing that is associated with doctors and scientists. They administered several cognitive tests to undergraduate students.

Some were given lab coats to wear during the test. Adam and Galinsky found that the students who wore lab coats made half the mistakes the other students made. Simply wearing the jacket improved their performance.

If simply handing a student a jacket improved their performance, imagine what actively choosing

professional attire would do. Self-esteem issues could be greatly diminished.

I enjoy dressing up because I know I'll smile when I see myself in the mirror, even if it happens to be the worst day ever. People take notice when my outfit is fancier than normal. It's not attention-seeking; the compliments are only an added bonus to the way I feel when I put a little more effort into the way I look.

It could be as simple as a collared shirt or a flowery skirt. A new pair of earrings or shoes could do it too. Changes don't have to be huge to be impactful. Putting in that bit of extra effort once a week is beneficial in many ways. If there's a question of when to start, Fancy Friday would be worth a try.

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missourian@gmail.com.

# Beekeeping club aims to educate

MAKENZI TURLEY

Missourian Reporter | @themissourian

Northwest welcomed a new student organization that aims to educate students and raise awareness about bees.

Freshman Abigail Rosonke is the president of Beekeeping Club, and she initially brought the club to campus. The purpose of this club is to teach people about bees and the importance of bees in general.

Rosonke said she gained interest in bees when her former roommate showed her what beekeeping was like. Shortly after her roommate transferred from Northwest, she decided to create her own club to teach others the importance of the creatures.

Beekeeping club adviser Pat Ward said he has had a lot of experience with bees and is excited about what the club might bring to the Northwest campus.

"(Beekeeping club) will number one be educational, because bees are so important to our environment," Ward said. "The life cycle of the bee is so amazing, and you get to watch every stage of it."

The club has already ordered four packages of bees. Each package holds between three and four pounds of bees, which equates to about 4,000 bees per package. There is one queen bee per package and each one of the queen bees will lay about 2,000 eggs per day. By the middle of this summer, there is projected to be about 60,000 bees total.

"We are going to have some hives out on the farm where (the agriculture department) will be growing alfalfa and other good pollinator plants," Ward said. "We're also planning on putting some hives closer to campus."



**Pat Ward, staff advisor of the newly formed Bee Club, discusses ways various bee species protect themselves against varroa mites during the Student Organization Fair Wednesday, Feb. 6. Ward is also Northwest's arboretum director.**

Another hive will go behind the greenhouse. The bees will be close enough to campus where students can see and learn about them, but far enough away to prevent problems with the bees.

"We are aiming to generate excitement about bees in general, but we also want people to have the opportunity to actually get in the hive and learn more about bees on that

level," Rosonke said.

The beekeeping club provides activities for people who are allergic or uncomfortable with the thought of live bees. There will be protective suits for students to wear while in contact with the bees. The beekeeping club has three suits and plan on ordering more as soon as they know what their budget will be.

Beekeeping club is working on a few other projects other than just getting bees on campus.

"Along with the bees, we want to put in some pollinator plots; these are plants that are attractive to bees on campus," Ward said. "Our goal is to cut the chemical uses on campus and to increase areas that are no-mow zones where we can have some different flow-

ering plants that will flower at different times of the year."

There is an opportunity for an observation hive as well. The observation hive can be located inside a building. The beekeeping club is not positive when this will happen or where they will put it, but they are looking into placing one somewhere on campus for people to observe and learn from.

## SIMMONS

CONTINUED FROM A1

The approval also transitioned diversity and equity issues away from the Office of Student Involvement umbrella.

Six employees originally worked under the DEI vice president as part of the Office of Diversity Equity and

Inclusion, including the director of diversity and inclusion, director of equity and accessibility, two coordinators of diversity and inclusion and two coordinators of equity.

According to the University's online directory, Director of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett works alongside Coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion Adam Gonzales. Pat Wyatt serves as the coordi-

nator of accessibility.

The director of equity and accessibility and both coordinators of equity positions are vacant. A secondary diversity and inclusion coordinator position is also vacant. Northwest is not accepting applications for any of the vacancies, according to the University's employment opportunities listings.

Under the University's Sexual

Misconduct Policy and Procedures, the director of equity and accessibility serves as the Title IX coordinator. Since nobody holds the position, Husch Blackwell senior counsel Demetrius Peterson serves as the interim Title IX coordinator.

Peterson has experience advising universities on Title IX, Title VI and Title II.

As a result of Simmons' depart-

ture, Peterson will report directly to Jasinski until June 30. Vice President of Student Affairs Kori Hoffmann will support Title IX on a local level.

"It is imperative that we continue focusing on our University's bright future as the work of DEI is a key ingredient to our future success," Jasinski said.

## Blotters for the week of Feb. 7

### Maryville Public Safety

#### Jan. 23

There is an ongoing investigation for animal neglect at the 500 block of West Cooper Street.

#### Jan. 24

A summons was issued to **Alohra Long**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Terry Fabian**, 21, for driving while intoxicated and failure to yield right of way at the 200 block of West Fourth Street.

#### Jan. 29

A summons was issued to **Issi-ah Keegel**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Zachary Davis**, 24, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

#### Jan. 30

A summons was issued to **Jack-**

**son Barnes**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 600 block of West Second Street.

#### Jan. 31

A summons was issued to **Thomas Grathwohl**, 20, for driving while intoxicated, minor in possession and equipment violation at the 200 block of West Halsey Street.

A summons was issued to **Jacob Douglass**, 19, from Shelbina, Missouri, for minor in possession and having an open container in a motor vehicle at the 200 block of West Halsey Street.

#### Feb. 1

A summons was issued to **Brayden Welch**, 19, for minor in possession, failure to register a motor vehicle and possession of a fake I.D. at the 500 block of North Buchanan Street.

A summons was issued to **Thomas Reasoner**, 19, for driving while suspended and equipment violation at the 300 block of North Buchanan Street.

#### Feb. 3

A summons was issued to **Ken-nedy Braack**, 18, from Eldridge, Iowa, for minor visibly intoxicated at the 200 block of West Fifth Street.

A summons was issued to **Trace Harvey**, 20, for minor in possession at the 300 block of North Buchanan Street.

#### Feb. 4

A summons was issued to **De-shawn White**, 20, for driving while suspended.

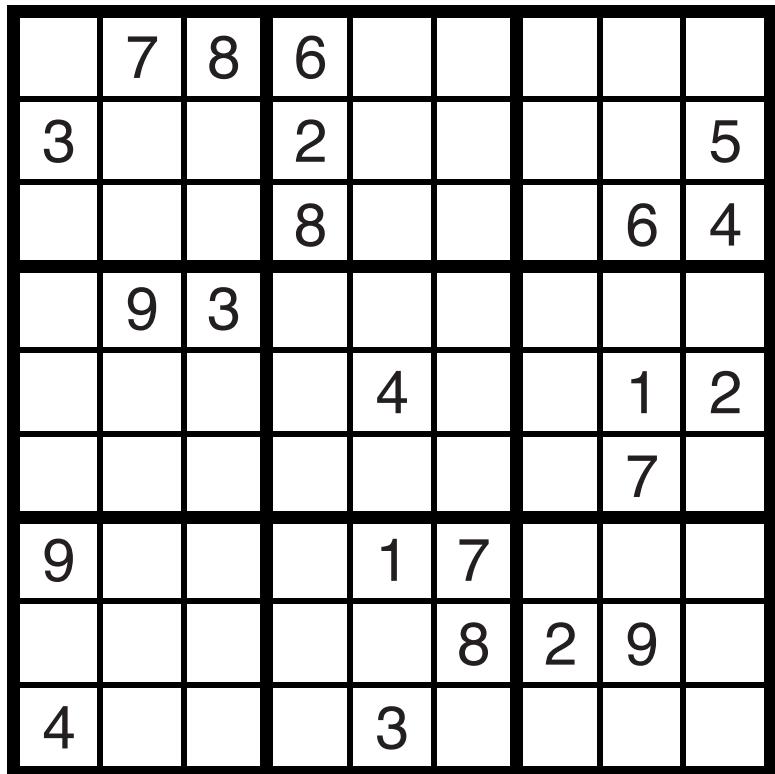
#### Feb. 5

A summons was issued to **Bren-ton Weathers**, 21, for possession of marijuana at Lot 32.

## AUTOMOTIVE DIRECTORY

## SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

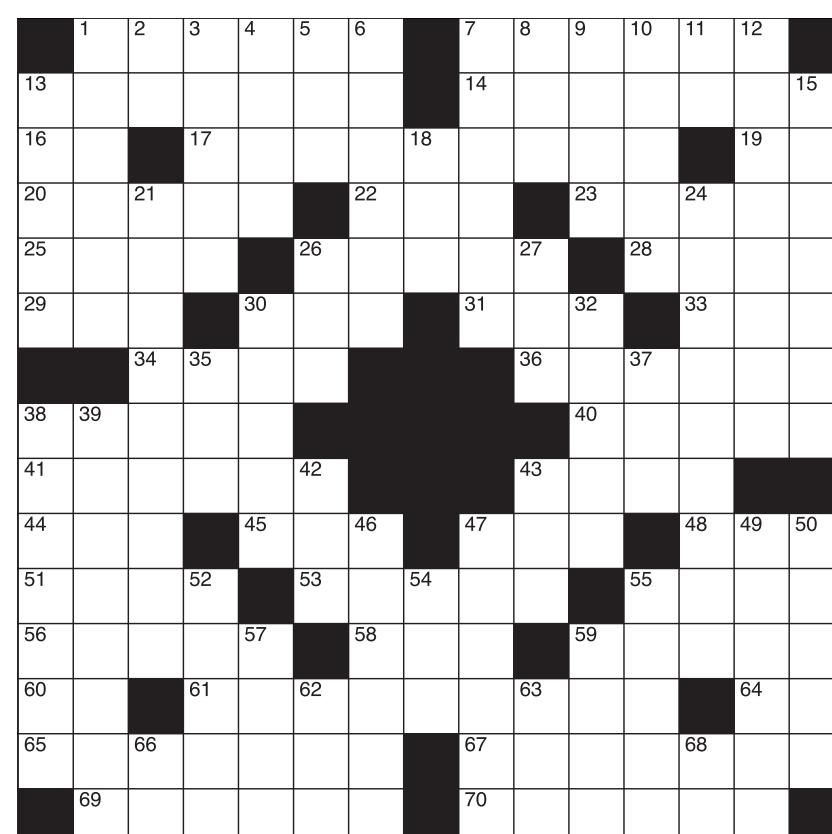


## CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Got paid
7. Sets free
13. Domestic hybrid cattle
14. Quality of one's character
16. Doctor's helper
17. Not holding back
19. Type of degree
20. Short but severe
22. 007's creator
23. Linguistics icon
25. Large integers
26. Upset
28. Former
29. Peyton's younger brother
30. An Irish dance
31. Title of respect
33. Small lump
34. Baroque musical instrument
36. The third sign of the zodiac
38. The 1st letter of the Hebrew alphabet
40. A group of nine
41. Garment
43. Capital of Yemen
44. One point south of due east
45. Drain
47. Moved quickly
48. Bar bill
51. An idiot
53. Indicates silence
55. Protein-rich liquids
56. Samoan monetary units
58. "— your i's, cross your t's"
59. Forms the bottom
60. Potato state
61. Toy that spins around
64. Saudi Arabian money
65. Barium
66. Bar bill
67. Cheese dish
68. High schoolers' exam
69. Forms the bottom
70. Bar bill

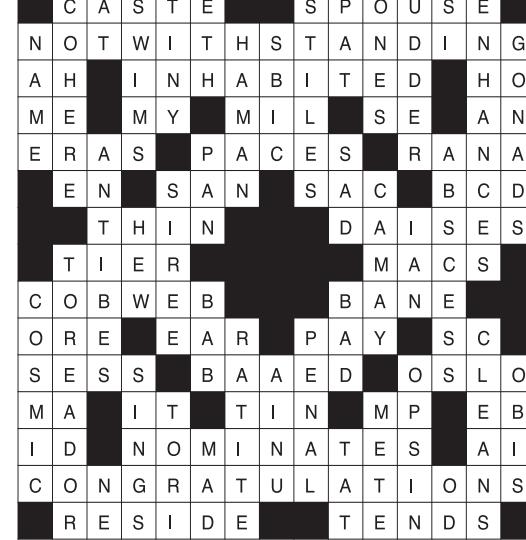
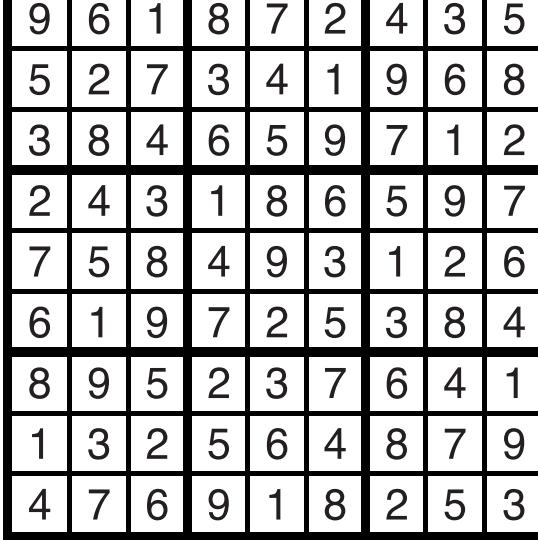


11. One billion gigabytes
12. Smallest musical interval
13. A rugged box (usually made of wood)
15. Cheese dish
18. An ugly, evil-looking old woman
21. Widely used
24. Makes into pages
26. Afflict in mind or body
27. Set up
30. Toilets
32. "Life of Jesus" theologian
35. A big deal on Wall St.
37. Western Thai people
38. Free from contamination
39. Type of dog
42. Revolver
43. High schoolers' exam
46. San Diego ballplayers
47. Hit the sack
49. Suitable for crops
50. Red mineral
52. Yellowish-brown
54. Lowest point between two peaks
55. Late TNT broadcaster
57. Thin strip to align parts
59. Swiss wind
62. A way to chill
63. Jewel
66. Rhodium
68. The top lawyer in the land

## CLUES DOWN

1. Nix
2. Indicates position
3. Quantitative facts
4. Strong and healthy
5. Former measure of length
6. Dads tend to be this
7. Parts of a movie
8. An animal's foot
9. Expression of sorrow or pity

## Last Week's Solutions



## HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative

## ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Change is on the horizon, but you don't yet know where you fit into the equation, Aries. Enjoy the unexpected and don't worry so much about the future.

## TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, though you may think you can only choose one direction in life, you really can reverse course and go in another direction if you so desire.

## GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, normally you are conservative and weigh things carefully. However, this week your other side takes over and you are apt to be a little more spontaneous.

## CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, there is only so much time to learn something new at work and you may be worried a bit. Someone will talk you through, and you'll find your way.

## LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, if life seems a little more hectic these days, you may be taking on too many responsibilities. Lighten the load and focus on what matters most.

## VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

It can be challenging to wrap your head around certain goals, Virgo. However, you will manage to pick and choose those tasks that are most important and get things done.

## LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you may be compelled to be introspective this week. Use this time to reflect and explore all the reasons why you typically enjoy being an extrovert.

## SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

If there is something on your mind, Scorpio, now is not the time to share it with everyone. Let this settle for a bit, then choose the right time to share your discovery.

## SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

People around you who are irritable might try to pull you into their situations, Sagittarius. Resist the urge to become influenced by their bad moods and perceptions.

## CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, a little extra concentration will have you flying through your to-do list in no time. Devote the time now and enjoy the reward and time off later.

## AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

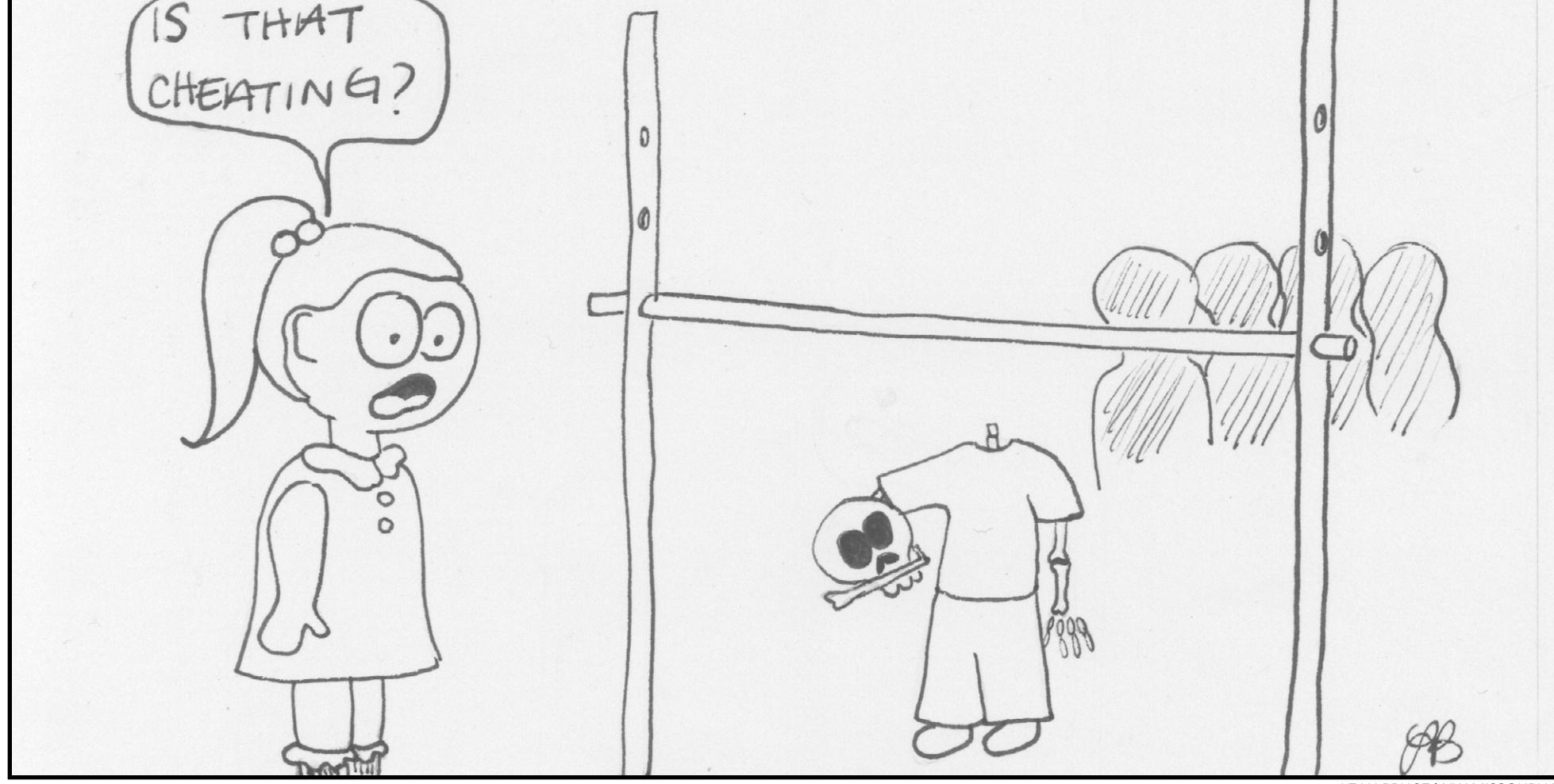
Aquarius, it is never too late to get some exercise, even if you think that a dedicated workout regimen can't fit in your schedule. Try socializing while working out.

## PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

This could be a week passion comes to the forefront, Pisces. If you keep your options open, you may be surprised at what comes your way.



## The Skeletwins





JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Nine-year-old daughter Aubrey Hull plays with Zain, the 16-week-old kitten, while Noah Hull watches contently.



JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Zain was found around the old Woodruff Arnold building with two other kittens named Zara and Zeta. All the kittens were named after Aubrey Hull's favorite show, "Shimmer and Shine."

## Cat behaviorist cares for feral cat population

SARAH VON SEGGERN

A&E Asst. Editor | @SeggernSarah

In a dull yellow one-story house with a basement, complete with a silver minivan and faded blue and white swing set in the front yard, many feral and abandoned cats find comfort in the seemingly typical home.

Upon entering cat behaviorist Jami Hull's house, the initial sight is a mixture of cats either roaming on top of the dining table, sleeping under the old rocking chair or being held by her excited, three-year-old daughter, Aubrey Hull.

In the past few months, the number of cats has increased due to Jami Hull starting the Trap-Neuter-Release Maryville program where she captures strays and ferals to neuter or spay before releasing them or putting them up for adoption.

The cats Jami Hull has trapped and rescued reside within her room in large cages in the corner opposite from her bed.

With two kennels and a cat cottage, lent to her from the New Nodaway Humane Society, she is able to house an average of seven cats with room to spare.

"It's a lot more than I would like to have or anyone for that matter, but compared to the alternative, I will gladly take them in if it means saving their lives," Jami Hull said. "I am hoping they can get adopted quickly."

Jami Hull has had a passion for animals since she was young, especially after her family rescued their now 18-year-old stray.

"I begged my dad all the time as a child to bring in anything and everything that I could," Jami Hull said. "When I was three years old actually, I wanted to be a veterinarian and that kind of changed as I grew older, but I still came back to it in a way since I'm still helping animals."

In 2018, Jami Hull was able to pursue her dream further after graduating from Animal Behavior College and was certified as a cat behaviorist.

In order to graduate, Jami Hull needed hands-on training. Through this training, she met the staff of the NNHS where she still helps with a few problematic cats.

Animal caretaker, front desk assistant and animal control officer Janelle Yapi recounted what she first thought of Jami Hull when she came in looking for hours.

"Crazy cat lady," Yapi said. "She would be able to go in there and touch them (stray cats who were mistreated or abandoned), and they would love on her, and I'd be like, 'That cat just sliced my face open this morning.' So yeah, she was the crazy cat lady."

A few of the staff members even call her the "cat shrink."

Her college certificate of completion and cat trainer certificate is displayed proudly over her quaint

**“ When I was three years old actually, I wanted to be a veterinarian and that kind of changed as I grew older, but I still came back to it in a way since I’m helping animals.**

*-Jami Hull*

wooden desk that is riddled with various papers and has been taken over by her children.

Jami Hull works hard to balance out her passion for animals and her numerous responsibilities as both a mother and a business owner.

Between school for her children, owning Claws on the Walls LLC and running the T-N-R Maryville program, life can get a bit hectic.

"It definitely gets tricky sometimes," Jami Hull said. "I have four kids total. There have been days where I've loaded all of my kids up with traps in the very, very back of my little minivan. Then we drove all over town, and we picked up cats and took them to the vet. If it's an emergency situation, definitely they're on board to help."

Not only do her children help out in her search for strays and fe-

rals, but her husband also supports her and her passion.

"I'm pretty proud of what she does and happy she does it," Michael Hull said. "I think that's good for her and the community."

Even with the many cats in their house, Michael Hull said, for the most part, he doesn't believe it's that big of a deal. He even discussed how the children seem to like the cats.

Jami Hull enjoys watching her children socialize with the stray cats.

"She's (Aubrey) definitely a cat lover," Jami Hull said. "I wake up early, early in the morning, 6 o'clock every morning, and I clean everything out of my room, and she's always right in there with me helping."

Despite the support of her family, Jami Hull sometimes finds herself facing accusations of stealing and selling pets for profits. She said some people don't seem to understand her cause, and some have been difficult to deal with when it comes to wanting a stray back.

"Not everyone supports my cause," Jami Hull said. "I encourage anyone to come and sit out in the cold with me one night and see what these cats have to go through. 'Ed-

ucation is key' is kind of my main thing. It's just teaching people."

Jami Hull's nine-year-old, Adrian Hull, loves being able to help his mom, even in freezing temperatures.

"My nine year old sat out in the blizzard with me," Jami Hull said. "Over on Fourth Street, he sat out in the blistering cold with me, and we were only able to catch two cats but it made his day that he was able to help."

Adrian Hull's favorite part about helping is getting to meet and play with the cats who come home with them.

"It's great when my mom gets really sick cats and they don't like us but then we help them feel better," Adrian Hull said. "They slowly trust us, and sometimes I can pet them like they know we are there to help them."

One of the biggest problems Jami Hull faces--besides angry pet owners--is funding for all the medical bills. It is \$40 to spay a cat, \$30 to neuter and \$5 to vaccinate for rabies, all of which are essential processes for Jami Hull before she releases them.

Jami Hull said donations are greatly appreciated, even if it's simply donating time to socialize with the cats or items like blankets and toys.

"There's so many more (cats) out there," Jami Hull said. "Fifty may seem like a great number to start off with, but it doesn't even begin to touch all the cats in Maryville. It's kind of my goal. If people can help me, then I can help more."



Jami Hull and 3-year-old daughter Aubrey Hull socialize with the cats to get them used to being around people daily.

JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN

# SAC comic entertains audiences

JAMES CHRISTENSEN  
A&E Reporter | [jameschris1701](mailto:jameschris1701)

Comedian Kirby Shabazz brought his unique style of humor to the people of Maryville during his set Feb. 1.

The event was part of an ongoing comedy series throughout the school year and was sponsored by the Student Activities Council.

The event was held in the Charles Johnson Theater and brought students as well as community members together for a night of laughs and entertainment.

Shabazz got his beginning in comedy by being a class clown with his friends and discovering his love for improv and comedy.

"(I was) just constantly getting in trouble at work, just being silly and goofy, and also messing around with my coworkers," Shabazz said. "From there, it got me into improv and the rest is history."

Shabazz was among the comedians SAC saw perform at the National Association of College Activities Conference in Boston.

Britney Poage, an elementary and special education freshman, was the special events director for this performance and was excited for the chance to serve as the chair for this event.

"It is really fun getting to meet with agents and email them, and you get to meet the talent and give them whatever they need prior to their performance," Poage said. "It is also really cool to see everyone's smiles during and after the event."

Shabazz said there is a difference in the types of atmospheres when performing on a college campus versus performing in a comedy club.

"I feel like on a college campus, you have a lot of first-time students who have never even been to a college show or its their first time at an event. It kind of feels like a lecture to them, so being respectful and paying attention (are what they are expected to do). Where in a club, it is a lot more expressive and more relaxed."

Amiere McNeal, a freshman chemistry major, was excited to attend this event. McNeal said Shabazz made direct connections with the audience.

"He was so funny, and I could relate to him on so many levels ... I really liked how he was openly able to interact with the audience," McNeal said. "A lot of comedians typically just tell their jokes and then leave, and they don't really interact with the people in the audience and get our view."

Dominique Brooks, a freshman criminology major with a minor in psychology, left this event feeling more connected to the Northwest community.

"These types of events get me out, otherwise I am just sitting in my dorm room watching Netflix," Brooks said. "Having events, especially like this, helps students get out of their rooms and make connections with other students and feel more at home on this campus."

Poage said there will be one more comedian coming to campus later this semester.

"We are very excited to see what that performance has in stores for us as we go forward this semester," Poage said.

The final comedian, Kabir Singh will be performing on March 1 in the Charles Johnson Theater.



JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN

SAC Comic Kirby Shabazz performing on stage Feb. 1 in the Charles Johnson Theater. Shabazz has performed on many big stages including "The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon."

## THE STROLLER:

# Your Bearcat wants to learn during class

After nights of mindlessly doing busy work because a professor is too lazy to teach me, and days of sitting in classes filled with morbid silence because the professor refuses to teach the concept, I can confidently say I despise the flipped classroom model.

A research study from 2015, published in the CBE - Life Sciences Education Journal, isolates two main phases to learning: "the content attainment phase" and "concept application phase."

The content attainment phase consists of learning the relevant concepts in the class. In a traditional

teaching model, this consists of lectures professors give. In a flipped classroom, this consists of students using provided material at home.

The concept application phase consists of homework after class in a traditional model, or in a flipped model, in-class work after learning the concepts at home.

The goal of the study was to analyze which model was more effective.

In order to accomplish this, two groups of students were set up. The first group followed the traditional teaching method while the second

group followed the flipped classroom model.

The results concluded that the order of two education phases is irrelevant. So rather than focusing on the model, professors should strive to foster "active" learning.

As students, we are all still getting used to the new hurdles of adulthood. Sorry, if constant homework assignments become too much, and we complete them without caring whether we learn the concept.

Nothing is more frustrating than an entire class not knowing the answer and the professor saying, "I guess you'll just have to turn the as-

signment in without help," because no student wanted to be patronized while trying.

This results in a classroom full of demoralized students whose focus shifts from learning to if they should drop it or risk losing scholarships.

Professors should strive to foster an atmosphere of active learning, regardless of the teaching model.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

# Workshop teaches students to understand emotions

PRIYANKA PATEL  
Missourian Reporter | [@TheMissourian](mailto:@TheMissourian)

The first ELA workshop, focusing on emotional intelligence, was held Feb. 4 in the Boardroom at J.W. Jones Student Union.

The workshop aimed for students to be introduced to effective leadership development techniques and to have the ability to recognize and understand their own emotions.

The workshop focused on different categories such as self-awareness, social awareness and relationship management. These categories were also integrated with how to pick up on emotions from others and understand how other people can feel in certain situations.

Senior agricultural science major and psychology minor Jessica Neibling attended similar workshops prior to this to help enhance her learning.

"I had taken a prior class for managerial communication where he had a speaker come and talk about EQ, so when I saw this workshop, I knew that I wanted to go to it," Neibling said.

During the workshop, students

completed the Myers Briggs personality test, which shows a person's personality type in terms of how that person perceives the world and the people around them.

This allowed students to develop their self-awareness and how they perceive things differently than others.

"I enjoyed taking the test as it showed my strengths and what career choices I could have, which was a good aspect to learn about myself," Neibling said.

Neibling also spoke about how personality types can be a good or bad thing.

"I think being self-aware can be a good thing, but can also be negative because when people focus too much, it can alter their attitudes," Neibling said. "You need a good balance because if you're trying to change too much or conform to other ways to be like someone else, it can be harmful."

The workshop also spoke about development and being able to self-reflect regularly with school, work and relationships.

One of the topics discussed was

reflection and how this can be good for a student's mental well-being.

"Mental health is part of my psychology minor, so this workshop opened my eyes to exploring further 'How can I do things differently?' or 'Why do I do things in a particular way?' and mental health is a big part of reflection, of going through emotions within our daily lives," Neibling said.

The workshop was beneficial for students as it also spoke about how emotions can interlink with future job prospects and how students can be perceived when going for graduate job interviews.

This allowed students to think about how they could develop their qualities in order to become more employable.

"This workshop was a good learning curve, and it is good for people to attend to learn about their own characteristics so they can understand themselves a lot more," Neibling said.

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MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN  
Lead Green Mentor Jack Camenzind speaks to students about the importance of social awareness in an Emotional Intelligence Workshop hosted by Lead Green Monday, Feb. 4 in the J. W. Jones Student Union.



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Following last week's statement, senior relief pitcher Trevor Duder earned preseason second-team all-region honors from the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association. Last season Duder earned first team all-MIAA honors, leading the Bearcats with 14 saves with an ERA of 2.25.

## Wrestling enters districts with hopes for state bids

GEORDON GUMM  
Missourian Reporter | @geordon97gumm

With the regular season officially over for Maryville wrestling, that leaves the district tournament and the possibility of a state bid.

The girls competed in their first district tournament Feb. 2 in Smithville. Even though the girls did not win, there was no lack of excitement for the future of the squad. Coach Kody Koster expressed great admiration for all the effort and hard work the girls put in this past season.

"Something that really stood out to me about the girls this season was their ability to persevere," Koster said. "They would always look to build off of mistakes and turn those mistakes into positives on the mat."

Boys wrestling headed to Bethany to take on South Harrison and North Andrew. The dual was postponed Jan. 30 due to inclement weather. Maryville came out of the dual with a 48-10 win over North Andrew and a 48-30 win over South Harrison. With two big wins before districts, Koster believes the team is hitting its stride at the right time.

"Since it was the last meet of the year, it was nice to see the level we competed at," Koster said. "The guys really came out ready to go, and they took care of business in the end. It was a great time for us to win in that fashion because it will serve as a confidence booster going into districts and even potentially state."

Koster was pleased with the way the athletes prepared for their respective district tournaments. Something emphasized by Koster was tempo. The tempo or pace at which a match is held can deter-



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior at Maryville High School, Amber Ebrecht, wrestles her teammate, sophomore Emma Hart, in the Quad State Classic on Jan. 26, at Maryville High School.

mine the outcome. Koster exudes energy, and it is starting to rub off on the athletes.

"As a wrestler, you want to control the tempo out on the mat," Koster said. "Controlling the tempo of the match puts that wrestler in a situation where they can play to their strengths or go after the opponent's weakness."

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# Northwest starts season on low note

TRENT SPINNER  
Chief Reporter | @trentspinner

Northwest baseball is focusing on the experience rather than the results as it continues its Southern tour to begin the season.

The Bearcats embarked on their new journey in an identical hole as they did last year (0-3), but this year the point is to grow and pull pressure from the "win now" stigma.

Northwest baseball took on its annual trip to Arkansas and Oklahoma as they faced off against a double threat of opponents familiar and unfamiliar. The Bearcats started with a formidable foe that knew how to break their hearts all too well: Arkansas Fort-Smith.

Last year, Fort Smith sat close to the top in a tough knit Heartland conference and finished the season 32-19.

Though the Lions claimed the sweep against the Bearcats, Fort-Smith was unable to bully the roster like they had the previous year. Last year, the Lions claimed a staggering 27-6 run advantage compared to this year's 25-13 scoring festival (3-2, 11-1, 11-10).

Considering the outlier of the middle game, the walk-off in the first game and the late rally that fell short in the third segment, the Bearcats held their own in the Lion's den.

"This year, we came out as a more polished team," former Bearcat and assistant coach Hudson Bilodeau said. "We showed signs of playing better baseball offensively and defensively."

With cold weather hovering over Maryville for days on end, freshman pitchers have been enclosed within Hughes Fieldhouse while trying to get a feel for live action. Coach Darin Loe used the Arkansas trip to counter that and integrate the freshmen into the show.

"We have to see those guys, and they got some good tools, and we just have to get them experience," Loe said. "So we got a lot of guys in and out, and they're going to be better for it in our midweek, our next week and over the course of their years."

UP NEXT
<b>Northwest @ Henderson State</b> 6 p.m. Feb. 7 Arkadelphia, Ark.
<b>Northwest @ Southern Arkansas</b> 3 p.m. Feb. 8 Arkadelphia, Ark.

Over the course of the three games, Loe used five freshmen in a relief effort against the Lions offense. While Fort-Smith was teeing off on the Bearcats pitching in the second game, which resulted in an 11-1 loss for Northwest, Loe used this as an opportunity to get a feel for how these freshmen handle the pressures of the craft.

One freshman used was St. Joseph native Jacob Gill. When he came into the last inning and finished off the red-hot Lions. During that trial run, he gave up two walks, but in the process got two batters out and finished without a run given up.

"I felt prepared for the situation considering all the scrimmage hours we put in over the offseason," Gill said. "But the nerves of it being my first outing were still there."

While pitching faced the idea of uncertainty, the offense faced their own highs and lows. After scoring just four runs total in the first two games, they unleashed the bats for a five-run rally that fell one run short.

"In the last game of the series, we showed the ability to get up after being 'hit in the mouth' and answered by scoring and having big innings," Bilodeau said. "This is something that took us a while to figure out we could do last year."

The Bearcats may have struggled in Arkansas, but just one state to the left flourished. Tuesday Northwest dominated the game against Southeastern Oklahoma State 12-4.

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AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman Trevor Hudgins is a key component to the Northwest offense this season, scoring 19.1 points and providing 6.1 assists per game. Hudgins helped lead the Bearcats to a 82-62 win over Missouri Southern Feb. 2 with 24 points.

## Northwest men ranked No. 1 after perfect start to season

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21



Before Northwest men's basketball played a single game this season, coach Ben McCollum thought his team was on the edge of something big.

In the team's opening press conference in October, the 10-year coach said the Bearcats were "on the edge of greatness" while simultaneously being "on the other edge of absolute disaster."

Now, three months later, Northwest (21-0, 11-0 MIAA) has swept its way through much of the season and has earned the top spot in the NAVC Division II poll, recognizing the Bearcats as the best team in the country.

McCollum said after the team's first scrimmage in the preseason, he didn't know what to expect. After the third scrimmage was complete, McCollum realized how good Northwest could be.

"We scored a lot of points in a very short amount of time," Mc-

Collum said of Northwest's third scrimmage. "I thought then, 'Hey, you know we might have a chance, offensively in particular, to be pretty special.'"

On the surface, the Bearcats seem to have exceeded every expectation set for them at the start of the season. It defies logic for a team to graduate the core of a National Championship and run and still run one of the most efficient offenses in the history of college basketball, but that's what Northwest has done.

### UP NEXT

#### Northwest @ Lindenwood

7 p.m. Feb. 7  
St. Charles

#### Northwest @ Lincoln

3:30 p.m. Feb. 9  
Jefferson City

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AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Jaelyn Haggard drives to the basket in Northwest's 61-58 loss to Missouri Southern Feb. 2. Haggard worked for a total of 18 points, making her the leading scorer for the Bearcats in the game.

## Women's struggles continue through conference stretch

TUCKER QUINN  
Chief Reporter | @Tuck\_Quinn

As Northwest women's basketball enters the latter part of the 2018-19 MIAA conference season, the gamut of opponents standing in the way continues to weigh down on the Bearcats' shoulders.

After suffering two home losses at the hands of Pittsburg State (17-4, 9-3 MIAA) and Missouri Southern (12-10, 4-8 MIAA) in Bearcat Arena, Northwest (7-13, 3-8 MIAA) prepares for a weekend road stretch with hopes to get back to winning ways.

Thus far, the Bearcats seem to be more comfortable playing in their opponents' gym than competing at home. Northwest has secured all three of its conference wins while playing in hostile environments while still searching



### UP NEXT

#### Northwest @ Lindenwood

5:30 p.m. Feb. 7  
St. Charles

#### Northwest @ Lincoln

1:30 p.m. Feb. 9  
Jefferson City

for its elusive first home victory in the MIAA.

"We seem to shoot better when we are on the road," coach Austin Meyer said. "I haven't been able to put a finger on why yet, but I hope we can go in there and just play with confidence."

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## Bearcats push back against preseason ranking

TUCKER FRANKLIN  
Podcast Editor | @thereal\_tucker

Coming off of a rough spring season a year ago, Northwest men's tennis hopes its youthful team has what it takes to bounce back.

The Bearcats were picked to finish third in the MIAA coaches rankings this season. Coach Mark Rosewell addressed the rankings and said it's not where you start, but it's where you finish that matters.

"I thought we had an excellent fall," Rosewell said. "We have a lot of young players. We have two really experienced teams in Southwest Baptist and Washburn, who are both nationally ranked. So picking us third was about right."

Southwest Baptist was picked by four out of the five coaches to win this year's championship. Washburn received the other first-place vote. Last year's reigning champions beat Northwest in the opening round of the tournament.

During the fall season, sophomore Franco Oliva placed third at the ITA Cup. Oliva is Rosewell's highest finisher at the ITA Cup in his 37-year career at Northwest.

"It was encouraging," Rosewell said. "We've got some other good young players. I think we'll be a better team by May than we will be in February and March."

Northwest finished fourth in the MIAA last year and did something it hadn't done in eight years: win the conference championship. Overall, the Bearcats finished 10-9 overall and 2-3 in the MIAA.

"We don't consider it a successful year last year," Rosewell said. "It was a down year for us last year but we lost all of our players, Romain (Boissinot) and all his teammates. We are headed in the right direction."

Northwest struggled with highly touted teams last year, going 0-3 against nationally ranked opponents and 1-4 versus regionally ranked competition.

With only two seniors on the Northwest squad this year, the majority of the team is made up of underclassmen. Rosewell explained experience came at a premium last year for the Bearcats.

"We lost a lot of close matches," Rosewell said. "We didn't have the experience to win a lot of those matches, and it cost us."

Former Bearcat and grad assistant Romain Boissinot explained his experience playing can help the younger players in conference matches.

"It's more my four years experience playing and especially in the conference matches when they are feeling more pressure, I try to help them and guide them," Boissinot said. "I tell them what to focus on to reduce the pressure of those matches."

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### NW MEN'S BASKETBALL

#### MIAA Standings

#### Overall MIAA

NORTHWEST	21-0	11-0	Fort Hays State	19-1	10-1	1. Central Missouri (6)
Lincoln	15-5	8-3	Washburn	14-6	9-2	2. Central Oklahoma (3)
Washburn	15-5	8-3	Pittsburg State	17-4	9-3	3. Pittsburg State (2)
Missouri Southern	17-5	8-4	Central Missouri	15-2	8-3	4. Missouri Western
Fort Hays State	13-7	7-4	Lindenwood	14-4	8-3	5. Emporia State
Pittsburg State	14-7	7-5	Emporia State	16-5	7-4	6. Missouri Southern (1)
Northeastern State	12-9	6-6	Nebraska Kearney	12-8	5-6	7. NORTHWEST
Southwest Baptist	11-9	5-6	Missouri Western	10-10	5-6	8. Lindenwood
Central Missouri	11-9	4-7	Central Oklahoma	14-8	5-7	9. Northeastern State
Lindenwood	11-12	4-7	Missouri Southern	12-10	4-8	10. Washburn
Missouri Western	10-12	4-7	NORTHWEST	7-13	3-8	11. Southwest Baptist
Emporia State	8-12	3-8	Northeastern State	6-15	3-9	12. Fort Hays State
Nebraska Kearney	7-13	2-9	Southwest Baptist	6-14	2-9	
Central Oklahoma	9-12	2-10	Lincoln	9-11	1-10	

### NW WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#### MIAA Standings

#### Overall MIAA

NORTHWEST	19-1	10-1	1. Central Missouri (6)
Lincoln	14-6	9-2	2. Central Oklahoma (3)
Washburn	14-6	9-3	3. Pittsburg State (2)
Missouri Southern	17-4	8-3	4. Missouri Western
Fort Hays State	15-2	8-3	5. Emporia State
Pittsburg State	16-5	7-4	6. Missouri Southern (1)
Northeastern State	12-8	5-6	7. NORTHWEST
Southwest Baptist	10-10	5-6	8. Lindenwood
Central Missouri	14-8	5-7	9. Northeastern State
Lindenwood	12-10	4-8	10. Washburn
Missouri Western	7-13	3-8	11. Southwest Baptist
Emporia State	6-15	3-9	12. Fort Hays State
Nebraska Kearney	6-14	2-9	
Central Oklahoma	9-11	1-10	

### NW BASEBALL

#### MIAA Preseason Poll

1. Central Missouri (6)
2. Central Oklahoma (3)
3. Pittsburg State (2)
4. Missouri Western
5. Emporia State
6. Northeastern State
7. Lindenwood
8. Emporia State (1)
9. Pittsburg State
10. Missouri Southern
11. Nebraska Kearney
12. Fort Hays State
13. Southwest Baptist
14. Lincoln

### NW SOFTBALL

#### MIAA Preseason Poll

1. Washburn (11)
2. Central Oklahoma (2)
3. Central Missouri
4. NORTHWEST
5. Missouri Western
6. Northeastern State
7. Lindenwood
8. Emporia State (1)
9. Pittsburg State
10. Missouri Southern
11. Nebraska Kearney
12. Fort Hays State
13. Southwest Baptist
14. Lincoln

Feb. 7, 2019

# Unlikely transfer pursues football dreams

**ANDREW WEGLEY**  
Sports Editor | [andrew\\_wegley21](#)

Each year, the arrival of National Signing Day brings with it a wave of new signees to Northwest football.



Every individual player has followed their own unique path to Maryville, each trekking their own way here. There is perhaps no journey in Northwest's 2019 recruiting class more unique than that of Dawson Graham.

Unlike most other names being unveiled Feb. 6 as a part of Northwest's fresh influx of players, Graham is already here. He's a transfer, though that alone is not what makes his journey unique.

Less than two months ago, Graham was playing basketball for East Mississippi Community College. Graham, a guard, dropped eight points and grabbed four rebounds in his last game with the Lions Dec. 8. He finished his brief career at East Mississippi with six starts and a 47.8 field goal percentage.

Less than a month later, Graham announced he would transfer to Northwest to suit up as a wide receiver for one of the best Division II programs in the country.

"It was always kind of a hard decision," Graham said. "Just looking back and thinking back on it, I really missed playing football and wanted to get back into it."

Graham shined as a multi-sport athlete at Gothenburg High School in Nebraska, producing eye-grabbing highlights as a quarterback on the gridiron and a guard on the hardwood. Graham holds the all-time records at Gothenburg for passing yards, passing touchdowns and passes completed for his career. He was a two-time All-State selection as a point guard.

Graham received offers to play both sports at the next level, but a number of basketball schools wanted to see him play against tougher competition. This led Graham, who graduated from Gothenburg in 2017, to pursue basketball at Hillcrest Prep, a post-grad prep school in Phoenix, Arizona.

"A lot of the schools I was talking to, being from a small town, they wanted to see me play better competition," Graham said. "Instead of going the JUCO route right away, I decided to go to a prep school."

After logging a year at Hillcrest, Graham chased his hoops dreams eastward, landing at East Mississippi Community College. For the second time in just over a year, Graham moved more than 1,000 miles from home, relocating to Scooba, Mississippi, and pursuing his basketball career.

"The coaching staff (led me to East Mississippi)," Graham said. "They got ahold of me and gave me an offer, and I really connect-

ed with them. I enjoyed my time down there, and I guess I just decided that football was the route I wanted to go down."

That road led him here. Northwest coach Rich Wright said he's never taken on a basketball player as a transfer before, but Graham's athleticism was too good to pass up on.

"He was a tryout kid," Wright said. "He was a kid that we came out and met in the 11th hour so to speak, and (we) just really liked his athleticism. We'll see how it transfers on to a football field in the spring."

Wright and his coaching staff hosted Graham for a tryout of sorts, running him through a number of drills to test his athleticism. His performance, Wright said, was impressive.

"We watched him run around, we watched him do some skills and drills stuff with our quarterbacks, and it was like, 'Holy cow, we might have caught something here,'" Wright said.

Graham was drawn to Northwest for many of the same reasons he was drawn to East Mississippi: he liked the coaching staff and thought it was a great opportunity.

"The coaching staff and the environment here (brought me to Northwest)," Graham said. "When I made the decision to come back to football, I kind of re-opened my recruitment. Northwest was one of the schools I talked to, and I came up here and had a great visit, and after speaking with coach (Rich) Wright, coach (Joel) Osborn and coach (Chad) Bostwick ... it just felt like it was the place for me."

Though, it wasn't quite that simple. Football brought Graham to Northwest, but his decision to become a Bearcat contained multitudes. Both Graham's faith and his family helped guide him to where he is now.

Northwest's campus is a four-hour drive from Graham's home in Gothenburg, one that may sound lengthy to many. East Mississippi is over 1,000 miles from Graham's hometown, and the trek to the prep school in Phoenix is even longer. For Graham, Northwest feels close.

Graham has always been family-oriented, but the untimely death of his grandparents in a car accident in 2017 offered a deeper perspective for the transfer, one he never wanted. In some ways, the accident motivates Graham, and in others, it pushed him closer to home.

"I've always been a family-centered guy," Graham said. "My family means a lot to me. After my grandparents passed, it was definitely a difficult time, especially being so far away from home. It definitely (impacted) the decision of moving closer to home and being closer to my family."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF EAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

After playing basketball at East Mississippi Community College last semester, averaging 6.3 points per game in 10 games for the Lions, Dawson Graham transferred to Northwest to pursue a career in football.

## Family aspect brings walk-on

**TUCKER QUINN**

Chief Reporter | [Tuck\\_Quinn](#)



For some, being able to be part of Northwest athletics comes with few strings attached, but for the Weber family, being a Bearcat means so much more.

When Coleman Weber reports to offseason workouts this summer, it won't be the first time someone from the family gets the opportunity to put the Bearcat paw onto the dazzling white football helmet. It won't be the first time someone from the family gets to walk through the bell tower during orientation day on campus, and it won't be the first time someone from the family gets to experience life as a Bearcat.

To provide context into the rich history of Bearcats included in the Weber family; Coleman Weber's older brother Logan Weber is a junior on campus, and his cousin Megan Tollefson played softball at Northwest.

Perhaps Coleman Weber's deepest tie to Northwest football lies within Dave Tollefson. Dave Tollefson, who played football for the Bearcats for two seasons from 2004-05, was crowned a Super Bowl champion twice as a member of the New York Giants.

"Growing up, I always heard my cousin Dave talk about Northwest and style of play and the will to win they have there," Coleman Weber said. "I had made it a goal for me at a young age to make it to Northwest because I knew that they were of high caliber and the



STEPHANIE WEBER | SUBMITTED

Coleman Weber, a standout defensive end from Lawson High School, chose to attend Northwest in large part due to his family ties to both the school and the football program.

best place to be."

At Northwest, the family atmosphere seems to be of high priority, as it often can be defined as a "home away from home." The Webers can be the textbook example of this.

"Family was a huge part of the decision," Coleman's mom Steph-

anie Weber said. "I have listened for years as they talk about the relationships they have built on campus and they have lasted all these years while being the best friendships and relationships of their lives."

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ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville football standouts Eli Dowis (12) and Tyler Houchin (32) each committed to play football in their hometown at Northwest.

## Staying Home

### Maryville standouts sign with Bearcats

**ANDREW WEGLEY**  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21



For thousands of players across the United States, National Signing Day serves as the officialization of an achieved aspiration.

The phrase, "a dream come true," is often thrown around this time a year, as players sign to continue their football careers. The expression has grown into a cliché of sorts but for Maryville seniors Eli Dowis and Tyler Houchin, the idiom couldn't be more accurate.

Both Dowis and Houchin have grown up in Maryville, taking trips to Bearcat Stadium and Bearcat Arena to watch their hometown teams. For both Houchin and Dowis, to become a Bearcat is the realization of a dream.

"This is one of the things you dream about when you're young," Dowis said. "Looking at those college football players when you're eight, nine, 10 years old, you're just like, 'One day that's going to

be me.' For me and Tyler, we were lucky enough to make that dream come true."

A photo has emerged in recent months of Dowis and Houchin, as well as Houchin's little brother Trey, posing on the Bearcat Paw in the center of Mel Tjeerdsma Field. Now, the Maryville duo will return to the field as players year later.

"When we took that picture, I don't even know," Dowis said. "We were maybe 11 years old. Looking back on that picture now, it's just kind of special."

Dowis and Houchin served as a one-two punch out of the backfield for Maryville last season, and have been teammates for dating back more than half a decade. The two are in the midst of another season together now, suiting up for Maryville basketball.

For Dowis and Houchin, to take the next step in their athletic careers is special.

"I've grown up with that kid since I was probably in kindergarten or so," Houchin said of Dowis. "Just to be able to keep moving on forward

with him...It's going to be great."

Maryville football coach Matt Webb has watched the pair grow up over the last half-decade. Webb said he's glad to see Dowis and Houchin get the opportunity to play at one of the best Division II programs in the country.

"It's awesome," Webb said. "Tyler and Eli both; all they know is kind of a winning tradition. For these guys to be able to play in their hometown their entire career is something pretty special."

Dowis, who starred as a running back and defensive back for the Spoofhounds, will suit up as a wide receiver for the Bearcats, while Houchin's position is less defined for the time being. The former Maryville fullback expects to fill a variety of roles for Northwest.

Northwest football coach Rich Wright spoke glowingly of both Dowis and Houchin. Wright said, in some ways, people in the Maryville area may take their signings for granted, but that shouldn't be the case. Both players earned All-State selections as running backs in their

careers at Maryville.

Wright said Dowis' versatility and build is one thing that makes him so fascinating.

"Eli's a great football player. He's a great athlete period," Wright said. "The thing that's intriguing to me about Eli is his frame. He's bigger than what I think people realize. He's got a physicality to him that not a lot of receivers have, so I think we can do a lot of stuff with Eli."

Similarly, Wright spoke highly of Houchin's athleticism but was more-so drawn to his intangible traits.

"The thing that strikes me with Tyler when I watch him...Is just his leadership," Wright said. "He's a fantastic leader. He's a kid that gets other people going in the right direction. I think he's a kid that understands what it takes. Not to mention, he's a darn-good fullback, and that's what we're going to play him as."

For the duo, a pair of common themes between Maryville and Northwest football helped ensure them staying in town: culture and family. Most football programs in

the country seem to tout the same ideals, but in Maryville, the programs seem emersed in the convictions. Each team's winning record proves it.

"I really like the family atmosphere they have there at Northwest," Houchin said about why he chose to become a Bearcat. "Not just the family thing, but the will to win is what I really like. The culture there is already high and I'm ready to go into it."

Just a few miles away from the 'Hound Pound, the duo can't wait to get to work for Maryville's neighboring program. They've waited their whole lives for this, and they seem ready to get after it.

"I chose Northwest because it's been a home for me," Dowis said. "It's just been what I've known for pretty much my whole life and it makes it hard to try to go anywhere else. I'm definitely happy with my decision to stay in Maryville, and I'm looking forward to four or five more years of living here."

## Midwest anchors Northwest's recruiting class

**ANDREW WEGLEY**  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21



Rich Wright gained new opportunity when he was named the head football coach of Northwest Missouri State in December 2016.

Before he accepted the new duty with the program, Wright's recruiting duties laid outside of Missouri. His focus changed to Missouri with the 2018 signing class.

A large part of last year's Show Me State recruitment efforts on the Kansas City metro. Wright returned to the area when it came time to recruit the Class of 2019. He also headed further south.

"(I) found not only great high school football and great high school football coaches but just a demographic that is very similar to where we are," Wright said. "And boy, I was glad I made the trip this spring."

The result brought 18 of the 47 athletes who inked their commitment to play for the six-time NCAA Division II National Champions. Eight are from schools in the southern portion of the state.

Wright said branching out to the southern parts of the state brought something he may not find in other recruiting areas just as far away from Maryville.

"I mean this in all sincerity: when you recruit central and eastern Iowa and Chicago, your name rec-



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

ognition is not what it is in the state of Missouri," Wright said. "That is the thing that I was so blown about when I walked into a high school, what the name recognition of Northwest Missouri State is."

The Bearcats' other recruits were brought from Iowa, Nebraska-

ka and Kansas. In total, there are 35 athletes from the quad-state area.

Looking back on the programs' past senior classes, Wright says it is the athletes from Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas that help make the team's culture.

"What I want is guys that are go-

ing to be here for four or five years that are going to have upside, that are going to grow and develop with us and that we can make better," Wright said. "That's who we are."

Through the recruiting process, Northwest stresses the meaning of family and culture to the team. It is

this process that helps decide what schools to visit.

Wright and the Bearcats' coaching staff search for athletes who come from winning programs that have similar values. The process brings recruits who want to continue the same.

This year's class includes Webb City High School senior Durand Henderson, a MSHSAA Class 4 first-team all-state selection.

"What attracted me was when we saw the guys working out everyone was encouraging each other and busting their butt to get better," Henderson said. "It was a family I wanted to be a part of."

Genesee High School senior Jake Winslow, one of Northwest's four athletes from Illinois, had similar thoughts.

"The reason why I chose Northwest was because of the genuine love I saw that everyone around had for the team and for the school," Winslow said. "I also loved that the coaches preached being elite and doing everything to the best of your ability."

Overall, Wright said this year's class fulfills the needs the team set out to fill. These areas included length.

"Our focus was to try and get length," Wright said. "We accomplished that. It was to take care of our own backyard for the second year in a row. It was to try and hammer kids from successful programs."